

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SSO-00 ISO-00 NSCE-00 /011 R

66611

DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:PKJOHNSON

APPROVED BY: S/S-O:PKJOHNSON

DIST: S/S, NSC/E

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O 112151Z DEC 74 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 64

FOLLOWING REPEAT USINFO 0 111830Z DEC 74 ACTION SECSTATE  
11 DECEMBER.

QUOTE

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STATE OPS CENTER FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY TO DAVID GOMPERT FOR  
SECRETARY KISSINGER

USNATO FOR WILLIAM HAMILTON FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY TO LT COL

MARVIN BRAMEN FOR SECRETARY SCHLESINGER

WHITE HOUSE FOR JANKA

NATO MEETING -- III (TAKE ONE OF TWO)

FOLLOWING IS A REPORT OF FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION AS OF NOON  
EST DECEMBER 11, 1974, PREPARED BY USIA.

SUMMARY

WEST EUROPEAN MEDIA VARIOUSLY REPORTED SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S  
WARNING ON REDUCING DEFENSE EXPENDITURES. THE LONDON /FINANCIAL  
TIMES/ SAID HIS REMARKS WERE "CLEARLY DIRECTED AT BRITAIN."  
LEADING /MESSAGGERO/ OF ROME HEADLINED, "U.S. CRITICIZES ITALY  
FOR REDUCING MILITARY BUDGET."

JAPANESE MEDIA PROMINENTLY CARRIED CORRESPONDENT REPORTS INTER-  
PRETING DR. SCHLESINGER'S TESTIMONY LAST SPRING THAT THE U.S. IS  
REVIEWING POLICY ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS STORAGE AS INDICATING THAT  
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"HE HAS NO OBJECTION TO DISCLOSING THE SITES WHERE THESE WEAPONS

ARE STORED OVERSEAS IF THE HOST COUNTRY AGREES." (END SUMMARY)

LONDON: PAPERS ASSUMED THAT SECRETARY SCHLESINGER MEANT BRITAIN WHEN HE WARNED OF REDUCING DEFENSE CONTRIBUTIONS.

/FINANCIAL TIMES/ CORRESPONDENT MALCOLM RUTHERFORD REPORTED FROM BRUSSELS, "DR. SCHLESINGER...WARNED NATO DEFENSE MINISTERS HERE TODAY THAT THEY WERE NO LONGER LIVING IN A WORLD ORE PRE-PONDERANT U.S. MILITARY POWER AND ADVISED EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AGAINST MAKING DEFENSE CUTS IN THE BELIEF THAT THEY COULD SHELTER UNDER THE AMERICAN UMBRELLA.

"IN REMARKS CLEARLY DIRECTED AT BRITAIN, HE ALSO WARNED AGAINST THE PRECONCEPTION THAT THE MILITARY BALANCE COULD BE MAINTAINED BY SPENDING A FIXED PERCENTAGE OF GNP ON DEFENSE. THE PROPER BASIS FOR JUDGMENT, HE INSISTED, WAS THE ASSESSMENT OF THE EXTERNAL THREAT. HE WOULD REGARD ANY NATION WHICH FAILED TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF HIS AS OPTING OUT...DR. SCHLESINGER RESERVED HIS STRONGEST STRICTURES, HOWEVER, FOR THE FAILURE OF THE ALLIANCE TO MAKE PROGRESS IN STANDARDIZATION OF EQUIPMENT AND A MORE COST-EFFECTIVE USE OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS."

DEFENSE CORRESPONDENT HENRY STANHOPE OF THE /TIMES/ REPORTED THAT "WITHOUT MENTIONING BRITAIN BY NAME, (SCHLESINGER) DELIVERED SOME

POINTED REMARKS ABOUT THOSE WHO MEASURED THEIR DEFENSE CONTRIBUTIONS AS A PERCENTAGE OF GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT."

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT STEPHEN BARBER ASSERTED WEDNESDAY IN THE /DAILY TELEGRAPH/ THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER "IS NOW VERY WORRIED THAT THE NIXON-FORD FOREIGN POLICY HE SHAPED, OF SEEKING DETENTE WITH RUSSIA AND MOVING TOWARDS TRADE LIBERALIZATION AND CLOSER HARMONY BETWEEN THE ATLANTIC POWERS AND JAPAN, MAY BOTH BOG DOWN IN RECRIMINATIONS."

WEST GERMANY: WEDNESDAY PAPERS REPORTED THAT SCHLESINGER AND LEBER STOOD "SIDE BY SIDE" IN THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE IN WARNING AGAINST RELAXING DEFENSE EFFORTS, AND THAT THE DEFENSE MINISTERS CRITICIZED BRITISH PLANS TO CUT DEFENSE EXPENDITURES AND PRAISED THE GROWING STRENGTH AND QUALITY OF THE BUNDESWEHR.

/MUNCHENER MERKUR/ FRONT-PAGED A DPA DISPATCH FROM WASHINGTON ON STATEMENTS MADE EARLIER BY DR. SCHLESINGER THAT THE U.S. NUCLEAR POTENTIAL IN EUROPE MUST BE MAINTAINED. IT SAID THE TEXT OF HIS STATEMENTS TO SENATE SUBCOMMITTEES WAS RELEASED AT THIS TIME IN OBVIOUS REPOSE TO THE PROPOSAL OF THE BROOKINGS INSTITUTION STUDY THAT U.S. TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN EUROPE BE REDUCED FROM UNCLASSIFIED

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7,000 TO 2,000.I(SEE TOKYO SECTION OF THIS REPORT.)

/KOELNER STADT-ANZEIGER/ RAN THE REPORT OF HANS GERLACH THAT THERE WAS PROGRESS IN SPITE OF PROBLEMS. HE WROTE: 2TRUE, SCHLESINGER WAS ABLE TO REMIND HIS EUROPEAN NATO PARTNERS THAT THANKS TO VLADIVOSTOK THE SOVIETS NO LONGER INSIST ON COUNTING ATOMIC WEAPONS IN EUROPE IN SALT TALKS. BUT THIS NEWNASPECT IS NOT NECESSARILY GOOD NEWS FOR WESTERN EUROPE. BESIDES, SCHLESINGER'S STATEMENT, MEANT AS ENCOURAGEMENT, MAY NOT HOLD UP, SINCE THE

AMERICANS ALSO SAY THE ONLY PLACE EUROPE'S TACTICAL NUCLEAR ARMS CAN BE DISCUSSED IS VIENNA. BUT THERE THEY ARE NEGOTIATING A REDUCTION OF FORCES IN EUROPE. REGARDING VIENNA, SCHLESINGER MADE ANOTHER ENIGMATIC REMARK. HE NOTED THAT IN VLADIVOSTOK, CEILINGS WERE SET FOR BOTH SIDES REGARDING NUCLEAR-WEAPON CARRIERS. THIS COULD PERHAPS BE A MODEL FOR A JOINT LIMITATION ON FORCES IN EUROPE...

"OTHER PROBLEMS ARE MORE PRESSING TO THE NATO PLANNERS.... NEVERTHELESS, BRUSSELS HAS BEEN MAKING PROGRESS, NOT LEAST IN ITS WAY OF THINKING."

SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG OF MUNICH ARGUED THAT "IT IS TIME THAT NATO STOP MEDITATING AND ADOPT THE SUGGESTIONS MADE BY STEINHOFF (AND IN HIS DAY BY ADMIRAL SIR PETER HILL-NORTON), SAVING MILLIONS BY RATIONALIZING ITS ARMS DEVELOPMENT. THE EUROGROUP SHOULD TAKE A REALISTIC AND SYSTEMATIC LOOK AT HOW TO DO IT-ASSIGNING THE JOB TO AN INSTITUTIONALIZED TEAM OF CONSULTANTS."

BONNER RUNDSCHAU OBSERVED THAT "NO MATTER HOW PLEASED WE ARE THAT THE BUNDESWEHR HAS BEEN RATED AS STRONG AND OF GOOD QUALITY, THAT CANNOT CALM OUR FEARS. IF THING BEGIN TO CRUMBLE ON THE FLANKS, AN INTACT CENTER IS NO LONGER OF ANY USE."

SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC WEEKLY VORWERTS ASSERTED WEDNESDAY THAT "NATO IS NOT LOSING ITS SIGNIFICANCE, BUT IT WILL HAVE TO MODIFY ITS AIRMS. GRAND DESIGNS FOR THE FUTURE OF THE ALLIANCE WILL HAVE TO REMAIN IN THE DRAWER IN VIEW OF FAR-REACHING IF NOT REVOLUTIONARY CHANGES IN THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION. WHAT IS NECESSARY NOW IS TO HALT THE EROSION OF THE ALLIANCE..."

NEWSPAPERS AND TELEVISION LINKED THE OUTCOME OF THE EC MEETING IN PARIS TO THE MARTINIQUE MEETING OF PRESIDENTS FORD AND GISCARD. A TELEVISION COMMENTATOR IN PARIS SAID TUESDAY NIGHT THAT THE EC "MAY ONLY COME A LITTLE CLOSER TO A JOINT ENERGY POLICY, BUT ALL MEMBERS ARE STRIVING FOR MORE COOPERATION AND REDUCTION

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OF SELFISH OF NATIONAL INTERESTS....THE GISCARD-FORD MEETING IN MARTINIQUE WILL SHOW WHETHER THE PARIS SUMMIT HAS BEEN A SUCCESS. END TAKE ONE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY BUDGET, MILITARY EXPENDITURES, PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, TOSEC 64  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 DEC 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE271941  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** O:PKJOHNSON  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28 MAR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <28 MAR 2002 by morefirh>; APPROVED <28 MAY 2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** n/a  
**TAGS:** MARR, MPOL, PFOR, (SCHLESINGER)  
**To:** BRUSSELS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005